

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned  
Filing Date: Not Yet Assigned  
First Named Applicant: Fred C. Porter  
Group Art Unit: 3681  
Examiner: Ha D. Ho  
Title: TRANSFER CASE FOR HYBRID VEHICLE  
Attorney Docket: 6978-000254/COA

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Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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| <p><i>I hereby certify that is correspondence is being deposited with the<br/>U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:<br/>Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office,<br/>Alexandria, VA 22313 on <u>September 19, 2003</u><br/>by <u>FC Porter</u>, Attorney for Applicant.</i></p> |
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Dear Sir:

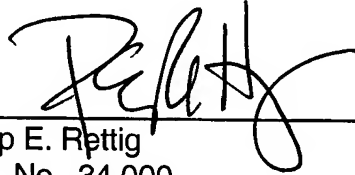
In accordance with the statutory provisions set forth in 37 CFR §1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner is hereby respectfully advised of the references listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. All of these references were made of record during prosecution of the parent application from which this continuation claims priority.

It is the Applicant's opinion that the claims presently on file patentably distinguish the present invention from the listed references. More specifically, the listed references are cited only in the interest of candor and without any admission that they constitute statutory prior art, or contain matter which anticipates the invention or which would render the same obvious, either singly or in combination, to a person of ordinary skill in the art.

In the event a first Office Action on the merits has been mailed in the above identified application prior to the Certificate of Mailing date set forth above, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee due under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) to Applicant(s) attorney's Deposit Account No. 14-0790.

Respectfully submitted,  
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Attorneys for Applicant

By

  
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Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

September 19, 2003

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| <b>FORM HDP-1449 (Based on Form PTO-1449)</b><br><br><b>PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE</b><br><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b><br>(Use several sheets if necessary)<br><br>Sheet 1 of 1 | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | SERIAL No.       |
|  | 6978-000254/COA     | Not Yet Assigned |
|  | APPLICANT           |                  |
|  | Fred C. Porter      |                  |
|  | FILING DATE         | GROUP            |
|  | Not Yet Assigned    | 3681             |

| <b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b> |                     |                 |         |                  |                 |                              |
|------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|---------|------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| Ref. Desig.                  | Examiner's Initials | Document Number | Date    | Name             | Class/ Subclass | (If appropriate) Filing Date |
| 1.                           |                     | 5017183         | 05/1991 | Teraoka          |                 |                              |
| 2.                           |                     | 5620387         | 04/1997 | Janiszewski      |                 |                              |
| 3.                           |                     | 5839535         | 11/1998 | Arai             |                 |                              |
| 4.                           |                     | 5954612         | 09/1999 | Baxter           |                 |                              |
| 5.                           |                     | 6371878         | 04/2002 | Bowen            |                 |                              |
| 6.                           |                     | 6464608         | 10/2002 | Bowen et al.     |                 |                              |
| 7.                           |                     | 6499549         | 12/2002 | Mizon et al.     |                 |                              |
| 8.                           |                     | 6041877         | 03/2000 | Yamada et al.    |                 |                              |
| 9.                           |                     | 6048289         | 04/2000 | Hattori et al.   |                 |                              |
| 10.                          |                     | 6059064         | 05/2000 | Nagano et al.    |                 |                              |
| 11.                          |                     | 6083138         | 07/2000 | Aoyama et al.    |                 |                              |
| 12.                          |                     | 6083139         | 07/2000 | Deguchi et al.   |                 |                              |
| 13.                          |                     | 6098733         | 08/2000 | Ibaraki et al.   |                 |                              |
| 14.                          |                     | 6110066         | 08/2000 | Nedungadi et al. |                 |                              |
| 15.                          |                     | 6116363         | 09/2000 | Frank            |                 |                              |
| 16.                          |                     | 6146302         | 11/2000 | Kashiwase        |                 |                              |

| <b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b> |                     |                 |         |         |                 |             |    |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|---------|---------|-----------------|-------------|----|
| Ref. Desig.                     | Examiner's Initials | Document Number | Date    | Country | Class/ Subclass | Translation |    |
|                                 |                     |                 |         |         |                 | Yes         | No |
| 1.                              |                     | 401095944       | 04/1989 | Japan   |                 |             |    |
| 2.                              |                     | 405131858       | 05/1993 | Japan   |                 |             |    |

|           |                  |
|-----------|------------------|
| Examiner: | Date Considered: |
|-----------|------------------|

EXAMINER: Please initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.